

## Notes: 3-6-21 Climate Crisis Group GRI

- I. The Group discussed the question of how to best invest their time and resources to address the challenges of climate change.
- II. Marcy Snyder suggested organizing an effort to install solar photovoltaic (PV) panels on every roof in Fort Bragg and having all residents use electric cars. She estimates that if 100 people were hired as installers, working in groups of 3, they could complete the installations in two and half years.
- III. Nancy Severy expressed the desire to see a grassroots effort to challenge local government to adopt a set of best practices for small communities to promote carbon sequestration. We need to identify the small communities doing exemplary work towards building sustainable cities and communities and learn from them as models.
- IV. Jean Crosby stressed that at the community level we need to ensure financing is not a barrier to participating in and benefiting from solarizing homes and providing people with electric vehicles. Everyone regardless of their economic situation should be able to benefit from solarizing communities.
- V. George Reinhardt underscored the need for citizen activists to exert leadership on resolving the climate crisis. Government officials are quick to express support for addressing climate change, but have difficulty staying focused on translating support in principle into concrete effective action by local government that is meaningful to addressing the climate crisis.

- VI. Christopher Wilder noted that in Sonoma County there is a concerted effort to promote renewable energy. He is particularly interested in promoting electric vehicles.
- VII. Marcy Snyder emphasized the need to make the public aware of and to utilize existing programs to promote efforts to solarize homes and use electric vehicles. For example, she used a state program to obtain a used electric vehicle at an affordable price. There are a number of tax credit, rebate and incentive programs that need to be utilized more broadly and expanded.
- VIII. George Reinhardt suggested that “Blue Zones” are being used in some communities to promote clean industries and sustainability. He expressed disappointment that local government wasn’t moving as aggressively as needed to confront the climate crisis. The city of Fort Bragg has adopted three climate crisis resolutions in the past few years, yet those principles are not evident in the current discussion regarding economic development in Fort Bragg.
- IX. Lillian Cartwright commented on the need to focus grassroots activist energy on demands for action that will have the greatest impact on climate change. Its important for activists to be strategic and focused. We need better coordination.
- X. Marcy Snyder stressed the need to tie climate change action to economic development and to hold local officials accountable for ensuring their actions reinforce climate action.
- XI. Peter McNamee suggested inviting local elected officials to meet with the GRI Climate Crisis Group in order to report on what they are doing to integrate climate action into local governance and to give local activists a forum to promote grassroots initiatives and hold officials accountable for performance.

XII. Next Steps: George Reinhardt volunteered to contact a local official to meet with the group on March 13th from 10am to noon to talk about climate change and economic development action.